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2013 Public Policy Priorities

- Encourage the creation of a bipartisan Agricultural Energy Task Force to explore agricultural energy opportunities. Emphasis should be on cost savings, on-farm energy production utilizing virtual net metering and other farm energy programs that would enhance economic opportunities to farmers.
- Allow for the sale of Connecticut grown and Connecticut inspected poultry to resellers and wholesalers.
- Maintain state-only jurisdiction for Connecticut pesticide and fertilizer regulations.
- Encourage technical changes to the PA 490 Farmland program that would provide program clarification to both assessors and landowners as well as changes to CGS 12-91 to make the collection of taxes on horses and ponies a municipal option.
- Oppose mandatory state labeling requirements of farm products that would damage Connecticut's agricultural industry.
- Oppose changes to Outdoor Wood Furnace (OWF) regulations that would be detrimental to agriculture.

Continued support for: Stand alone Connecticut Department of Ag, Agricultural sales tax exemption, Off-road fuel tax exemption, Adequate funding for The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment station, Bonding for Farmland Preservation, Continuation of the Community Investment Act (CIA), Permanent protection of state-owned farmland, adequate funding for the Agriscience and Technology Program.